

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Land Management

[MT-921-01-1320-EL-P; NDM 90783]

Notice of Competitive Coal Lease Offering by Sealed Bid—NDM 90783

AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management, Montana State Office.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the coal resources in the lands described below, in Mercer County North Dakota, will be offered for competitive lease by sealed bid. This offering is being made as a result of an application filed by The Coteau Properties Company, in accordance with the provisions of the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920, as amended (41 Stat. 437; 30 U.S.C. 181 *et seq.*)

The lease sale will be held at 11 a.m., Tuesday, December 11, 2001, in the Montana State Office 920 conference room, at the Bureau of Land Management, 5001 Southgate Drive, Billings, Montana 59101. Bids for the tract will be in the form of sealed bids. Sealed bids *clearly marked* "Sealed Bid for NDM 90783 Coal Sale—Not to be opened before 11 a.m., Tuesday, December 11, 2001", must be submitted on or before 10 a.m. December 11, 2001, to the cashier, Bureau of Land Management, Montana State Office, 5001 Southgate Drive, Post Office Box 36800, Billings, Montana 59107-6800.

An Environmental Assessment of the proposed coal development and related requirements for consultation, public involvement, and hearings have been completed in accordance with 43 CFR 3425. The results of these activities were a finding of no significant environmental impact.

The coal resource to be offered consists of all recoverable reserves in the following-described lands:

T. 146 N., R. 88 W., 5th P.M.

Sec. 14: SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$

Sec. 22: N $\frac{1}{2}$ N $\frac{1}{2}$, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, S $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$

excluding a 4.59-acre tract described by metes and bounds and further described as: Beginning at a point on the west line of said Section 22, said point being 250.00 feet north of the southwest corner of the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 22; thence north along said west line of Section 22, 500.00 feet; thence east at right angles to the last described line, 400.00 feet; thence south parallel with said west line, 500.00 feet; thence west at right angles, 400.00 feet to the point of beginning.

SW $\frac{1}{4}$ excluding a 12.61-acre tract described by metes and bounds and further described as: Beginning at the southwest corner of the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of said Section 22, 500.00 feet; thence north at right angles to said south line, 500.00 feet; thence northwesterly to a point on

the west line of said Section 22, said point being 1,700.00 feet north of said southwest corner; thence southerly along said west line to the point of beginning.

NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$

Containing 502.80-acres, Mercer County, North Dakota.

The tract in this lease offering contains split estate lands. Written consent is on file from all qualified surface owners as defined in the regulations at 43 CFR 3400.0-5.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The tract will be leased to the qualified bidder of the highest cash amount provided that the high bid meets the fair market value of the coal resource. The minimum bid for the tract is \$100 per acre, or fraction thereof. No bid that is less than \$100 per acre, or fraction thereof, will be considered. The bids should be sent by certified mail, return receipt requested, or be hand-delivered. The cashier will issue a receipt for each hand-delivered bid. *Bids received after 10 a.m., Tuesday, December 11, 2001, will not be considered.* The minimum bid is not intended to represent fair market value. The fair market value will be determined by the authorized officer after the sale.

If identical high bids are received, the tying high bidders will be requested to submit follow-up sealed bids until a high bid is received. All tie-breaking sealed-bids must be submitted within 15 minutes following the Sale Official's announcement at the sale that identical high bids have been received.

A lease issued as a result of this offering will provide for payment of an annual rental of \$3 per acre, or fraction thereof; and a royalty payable to the United States of 12.5 percent of the value of coal mined by surface methods and 8.0 percent of the value of coal mined by underground methods. The value of the coal shall be determined in accordance with 30 CFR 206.250.

Bidding instructions for the tract offered and the terms and conditions of the proposed coal lease are included in the Detailed Statement of Lease Sale.

Copies of the statement and the proposed coal lease are available at the Montana State Office. Casefile NDM 90783 is also available for public inspection at the Montana State Office.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Connie Schaff, Land Law Examiner, or Rebecca Good, Coal Coordinator, at 406-896-5060 or 406-896-5080, respectively.

Dated: October 31, 2001.

Randy D. Heuscher,

Chief, Branch of Solid Minerals.

[FR Doc. 01-29026 Filed 11-20-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310--55-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Alcatraz Island Historic Preservation and Safety Construction Program, Final Environmental Impact Statement, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, San Francisco County, CA; Notice of Availability

SUMMARY: Pursuant to § 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (Pub. L. 91-190, as amended), the National Park Service, Department of the Interior, announces the availability of the Final Environmental Impact Statement identifying and evaluating the environmental effects of the proposed historic preservation and safety construction program on Alcatraz Island, a site within the Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Final EIS presents and analyzes two "action" alternatives, the Proposed Action and the Reduced Project Alternative, and a "no-action" alternative. Based on principles of "101(b) of the National Environmental Policy Act, the Proposed Action is identified as the environmentally preferred alternative. The Proposed Action is a construction program designed to address serious public health and safety threats and stabilize important historic structures that contribute to the Island's National Historic Landmark Status. The Proposed Action includes ten individual repair projects that would require, in total, approximately 5 years to complete. The repairs include replacement of badly deteriorated piles supporting the dock, the only visitor access point to the Island, seismic retrofit of the Cellhouse, and repair/stabilization of other historic structures, some dating from the Civil War era, to provide for public safety and historic preservation. The projects would be implemented in two phases, Phase One (dock repair and Cellhouse seismic retrofit) and a Subsequent Phase. Using an adaptive management approach, Phase One projects would be implemented and monitored, and information gained through this monitoring will be used to refine and improve implementation for both ongoing and subsequent projects considered in the Final EIS to minimize potential impacts to wildlife. The use of mitigation measures during construction activity, such as staging and lighting restrictions and habitat restoration, would reduce potential impacts to biological resources. No changes in land use or long-term operation of the Island would occur as a result of the Proposed Action. The Proposed Action would not

result in impairment of resources on Alcatraz Island.

The Reduced Project Alternative includes many of the safety and historic preservation actions identified under the Proposed Action. Implementation of mitigation measures during construction activity, as in the Proposed Action, would reduce impacts to biological resources. However, the repair and stabilization of three structures (the Water Tower, New Industries "Laundry" Building, and Quartermaster Building) located on the north end of the Island in or near a biologically sensitive area would be minimal. Over the long-term, this alternative would allow continued access to the Island and would meet human health and safety needs in areas currently open to the public. However, the loss of three important historic structures under this alternative would have an indirect effect on the interpretive and recreational values provided on the Island. In addition, the three structures are contributing features of the Alcatraz Island Historic Landmark District and without a more complete rehabilitation these structures will eventually fail. Loss of these cultural resources and others in the same area would cause the loss of the National Historic Landmark District status, which would be considered impairment of the cultural resource values on Alcatraz Island.

The No Action Alternative does not include any of the proposed construction or repair projects. Under this alternative only routine maintenance or other current repair projects would be implemented. As a result, potential construction related impacts to biological resources would be avoided. This alternative would continue the neglect of the Island's significant cultural resources resulting in deterioration of buildings and structures and the eventual loss of the Alcatraz Island Historic Landmark District status. Serious public health and safety threats would result in closure of individual buildings or areas, leading to the closure of the Island to visitors. The irreparable damage to the historic structures associated with this alternative and the eventual closure of the Island would constitute impairment of the cultural resource values and recreational use values, respectively, on Alcatraz Island.

Public Comment

During the scoping process leading to preparation of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS), the National Park Service received comments from the individuals, groups, and agencies. NPS staff consulted with Native

Americans who participated in the Indian Occupation of Alcatraz Island from 1969 through 1971 to obtain information about the cultural importance of the Indian Occupation. Scoping also included consultation with regulatory agencies, including the State Office of Historic Preservation, the United States Army Corps of Engineers, and the National Marine Fisheries Service. The information gathered was reviewed and used during the preparation of the DEIS.

The DEIS was available for public review from March 27, 2001 to June 11, 2001. The National Park Service (NPS) received 9 letters and verbal comments at the public meetings. Responses were submitted from five organizations, two from individuals, and two public agencies during the comment period. Comments include written letters and oral-testimony given during two meetings of the Advisory Commission for the Golden Gate National Recreation Area and Point Reyes National Seashore on March 27, 2001 and April 24, 2001. The public comments received regarding natural resources focused on the potential impacts to nesting waterbirds from construction activities particularly those associated with the New Industries "Laundry" Building and the Water Tower and the potential for phasing these projects. Concerns were also raised regarding implementation of the adaptive management program and the future of public input into the implementation process. Comments were also received supporting the Proposed Action noting that it would have a beneficial effect on cultural resources by providing for the stabilization of historic structures. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) supplied comments requesting that additional information be provided in the Final EIS on the removal of hazardous substances encountered during project activities. No comments were received from Native American Tribes or the United States Fish and Wildlife Service. Responses to public comments are addressed in the Final EIS.

Additionally, NPS staff consulted with regulating agencies concerning the rehabilitation of the dock. The National Marine Fisheries Service concurred with the DEIS determination that the proposed project along with mitigation measures would not likely adversely affect listed species or essential fish habitat. In addition, the NPS obtained authorization from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, a consistency determination from the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development

Commission, and authorization from the Regional Water Quality Control Board.

Copies

Printed copies of the Final EIS are available at park headquarters, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, Building 201, Fort Mason, San Francisco, 94123 or by calling (415) 561-4936. Public copies of the FEIS will be available for review as well as at libraries in the nine-county San Francisco Bay Area. The document can also be retrieved via internet at <http://www.nps.gov/goga/admin/planning>.

During the "no action" period following release of the Final EIS, if any individuals submit comments and request that their name or/and address be withheld from public disclosure, it will be honored to the extent allowable by law. Such requests must be stated prominently in the beginning of the comments. There also may be circumstances wherein the NPS will withhold a respondent's identity as allowable by law. As always: NPS will make available to public inspection all submissions from organizations or businesses and from persons identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations and businesses; and, anonymous comments may not be considered.

Decision

A Record of Decision may be approved by the Regional Director, Pacific West Region, no sooner than 30 days after publication of a Notice of Availability of this Final EIS by the Environmental Protection Agency. The official responsible for the final decision is the Regional Director, Pacific West Region; subsequently the official responsible for implementation will be the Superintendent, Golden Gate National Recreation Area.

Dated: October 12, 2001.

Patricia L. Neubacher,

Acting Regional Director, Pacific West Region.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

National Park Service

Environmental Assessment for Proposed Improvements Within Jones Point Park Under the Woodrow Wilson Bridge Project

AGENCY: National Park Service.

ACTION: Availability of the Environmental Assessment (EA) for the proposed mitigation to Jones Point Park (JPP), associated with the Woodrow